

# Risca Urban District Council

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## Medical Officer's & Public Health Inspector's



# ANNUAL REPORTS

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FOR THE YEAR  
1963

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## **RISCA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Chairman — Councillor R. J. BEACHAM, J.P.

Vice-Chairman — Councillor W. H. JONES

### **Members of the Council**

Councillor A. M. Baulch, J.P.

Councillor J. G. Betty

Councillor Emrys T. Chivers

Councillor W. J. Chivers

Councillor W. J. Cooper

Councillor M. Huntley

Councillor H. H. R. Jones

Councillor W. Jones

Councillor P. M. Lewis, J.P.

Councillor F. Murnan

Councillor F. L. Painter

Councillor W. H. P. Rogers

Councillor C. J. Starling

Councillor H. Thomas

Councillor A. S. R. West

Councillor F. A. Wright

### **Clerk of the Council**

T. L. Cowlin, F.C.C.S.

### **Engineer and Surveyor**

O. Parry Morgan, M.I.Mun.E.

### **Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer**

Kenneth Wallace, F.I.M.T.A.

### **Medical Officer of Health**

Dr. K. P. Giles, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

### **Public Health Inspector**

Glyn M. Jenkins, A.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.

# Risca Urban District Council

## ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the year ended 31st December, 1963

To the Chairman and Members of the Risca Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen.

I have the honour of presenting my Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health for your District for the year ended 31st December, 1963. This report is compiled according to instructions contained in Circular 1/63 (Wales).

### SECTION "A"

#### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF AREA

Area of the District (in acres)	...	...	4,199
Population 1963	...	...	14,620
Rateable Value ...	...	...	£282,031
Sum represented by 1d. rate (estimated)			£1,074/18/0

#### Vital Statistics

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	19.90
The Birth Rate for England and Wales	...	18.80
The Birth Rate for Monmouthshire was	...	19.32

#### Infant Mortality

	Total	Males	Females
Death of Infants under 1 year	6	3	3
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births	...	...	24.24
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			12.26
Death Rate for England and Wales	...	...	13.4
Death Rate for County of Monmouth	...	...	13.67
Infant Death Rate for County of Monmouth	...	...	25.57
Infant Death Rate for England and Wales	...	...	21.10

### *Ages at death of Children under 1 year*

Under 1 week	...	...	...	...	...	3
1-2 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	-
2-3 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	1
3-4 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	-
						<hr/>
Total under 1 month	...	...	...	...	...	4
1-3 months	...	...	...	...	...	2
3-6 months	...	...	...	...	...	-
6-9 months	...	...	...	...	...	-
9-12 months	...	...	...	...	...	-
						<hr/>
Total under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	6
						<hr/>

There are no special causes of sickness during the year which need reporting on. The general conditions of health were good.

### **CAUSES OF DEATH**

					M.	F.
Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	1	-
Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	-	-
Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	-	-
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	-	-
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	-	-
Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	-	-
Measles	...	...	...	...	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	4	-
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	...	...	...	...	5	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	-	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	-	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	6	3
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	-	1
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	-	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	9	12
Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	28	16
Hyper-tension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	1	2
Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	7	10
Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	1	5
Influenza	...	...	...	...	-	-
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	4	4
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	6	4
Other disease of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	3	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	1	-



	M	F
Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortions ... ..	-	-
Congenital malformations ... ..	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	7	6
Motor vehicles accidents ... ..	1	1
All other accidents ... ..	6	2
Suicide ... ..	-	-
Homicide and operations of war ... ..	-	-
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All causes ... ..	91	72
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*Social Conditions.*—The chief Industries carried on in this Area are coal-mining and its subsidiary industries, also steel manufacturing. There are also several stone quarries and brick works.

## SECTION " B "

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

1. *Public Health Officers of the Authority.* One Medical Officer of Health and one Public Health Inspector (whole-time Officers).

2. *Hospital Services.* Hospital Services are administered by the Regional Hospital Board as and from 5th July, 1948.

The Monmouthshire County Council is responsible for administering the following services under Part III of the Act:—

- (a) Care of Mothers and Young Children
- (b) Midwifery Services
- (c) Health Visiting
- (d) Home Nursing
- (e) Vaccination and Immunisation
- (f) Ambulance Services
- (g) Prevention of Illness (Care and After-Care)
- (h) Domestic Help Scheme
- (i) Duties under Lunacy and Mental Treatment and Mental Deficiency Acts.

## SECTION " C "

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

#### 1. *Water Supplies*

In 1962 the Abertillery and District Water Board provided as a temporary measure a 100,000 gallon steel tank to supply the Ty-Sign Estate. The Board also laid an 18" water main from a point near Moriah Chapel along Park Road and Gelli Avenue through Ty-Sign to the new reservoir being constructed at Maes-Mawr. This reservoir is due for completion early in 1964, and will be ready when the Llandegfedd scheme comes into operation.

The 3,000,000 gallons of water per day from this reservoir should mean that all parts of this area should receive a plentiful supply of water.

## 2. *Drains and Sewerage*

In 1961 a new 15 inch diameter subsidiary foul sewer 1,000 yards long was laid from the Ty-Sign Housing Site to the main trunk sewer in Commercial Street at Mill Street Junction.

A 48 inch storm water sewer was also laid from the site to the Rhynys Field brook.

During the year further extensions of the system comprising sewers of various diameters have been carried out on this site.

## 3. *Rivers and Streams*

*Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act, 1951.*

The Administration of the above Act so far as the rivers Ebbw and Sirhowy are concerned is vested in the Usk River Board.

Any complaints received are forwarded to the Officers of the Board for such action as they consider necessary.

In the past swabs have been laid in the Sirhowy at Nine Mile Point and in the river Ebbw at Pontywain and Tanybryn.

On examination of the swabs the organisms *Salmonella Typhimurium* and *Salmonella Paratyphoid B* have been isolated, which is an indication that sewage is being discharged into the rivers.

Chemical pollution of the river is also taking place and in this respect the steelworks at Ebbw Vale is no doubt the main offender.

Until these rivers have been brought to a satisfactory standard of purity they must always be regarded as a potential source of danger to public health.

## 4. *Closet Accommodation*

Particulars will be found in the Public Health Inspector's Report.

## 5. *Public Cleansing*

There were no extensions or improvements during the year in the arrangements for public cleansing.

## 6. *Sanitary Inspection of the Area.*

A classified statement of the premises visited, the defects and nuisances discovered and the action and result of action taken with regard to these will be found in the Public Health Inspector's Report.

## 7. *Shops.*

The shops in the area are periodically visited by your Public Health Inspector and appropriate action taken to deal with any nuisances or defects discovered.

## 8. *Smoke Abatement*

Complaints regarding the emission of smoke, chiefly from local industries are received from time to time. Appropriate action is taken to deal with these complaints as they arise.



A lead peroxide candle to measure the amount of sulphur trioxide in the atmosphere was installed at "The Mount", Penrhiw in September, 1960, as part of a scheme agreed by local authorities in South Monmouthshire to measure possible atmospheric pollution from the Spencer Steelworks at Llanwern.

Monthly reports as to the amounts of sulphur trioxide have been received from Dr. James, the Public Analyst.

During the year the highest reading was 1.47 m.g. of sulphur trioxide (S.03) collected by 100 sq. cm. of lead peroxide per day and the lowest 0.23 m.g.

I consider the results for the year to be quite satisfactory.

9. *Swimming Baths*

Due to the severe frost experienced during January 1963, damage was caused to a considerable area of the floor and wall tiling and a large cavity was found under the floor of the bath adjacent to the main cracks.

As a result the baths were not opened to the public during the season.

10. *Eradication of Bed Bugs and Vermin*

5 houses were found to be infested with bugs, beetles or other vermin. In each case complete eradication was effected by means of spraying with D.D.T. insecticide.

SECTION " D "

1. *Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year*

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	57
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	179
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ..	-
(b) Number of inspections for the purpose ...	-
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	-
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found to be in full respects fit for human habitation ... ..	

2. *Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notice*

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ..	34
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### 3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year*

(a) Proceedings under Sections 16, 17 and 18 of the Housing Act, 1957 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices ... .. -

(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... .. -

(a) By Owners

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... .. 40

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices -

(a) By Owners ... .. 6

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners -

(c) Proceedings under Section 16, 17 and 18 of the Housing, Act, 1957 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ... .. 17

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... .. 13

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... .. 2

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... .. -

### 4. *Housing Act, 1957. Overcrowding*

(a) Number of new cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... .. -

(b) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... .. -

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... -

(c) Particulars of any houses becoming overcrowded after first relief ... .. -

## SECTION " E "

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) *Milk Supply*.—Samples of milk have been taken and examined for bacterial content, under the various Milk and Dairies Orders. For details see Public Health Inspector's Report.

(b) *Meat and Other Foods.*—For Action taken with regard to Meat and other Foods, Slaughter Houses, etc., see Public Health Inspector's Report.

(c) *Adulteration.*—No special action was taken under these Acts and Regulations.

(d) *Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.*—Ample use is made of the facilities provided by the County Laboratory.

(e) *Nutrition.*—No action has been taken under this Section.

## SECTION "F"

### PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Where necessary all cases of Infectious Diseases are visited and investigated by the Public Health Inspector on receipt of notification from the local Doctors.

The method of procedure with regard to immunisation has recently been amended. Now we are giving three injections each containing anti Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus.

Where it is found that a person has had Whooping Cough, Diphtheria and Tetanus only are given. Occasionally an injection against Tetanus alone is given.

The following are particulars relating to immunisation and vaccination carried out during the year 1962, in respect of the Council's area.

<i>Whooping Cough</i>						
0 — 4 years	...	...	...	...	...	33
5 — 14 years	...	...	...	...	...	3
<i>Booster Injections</i>						
0 — 4 years	...	...	..	...	...	-
<i>Diphtheria Immunisations</i>						
<i>Primary Injections</i>						
Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	11
1 — 4 years	...	...	...	...	...	26
5 — 14 years	...	...	..	...	...	8
<i>Booster Injections</i>						
Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	-
1 — 4 years	...	...	...	...	...	58
5 — 14 years	...	...	...	...	..	11
<i>Small-pox Vaccinations</i>						
Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	9
1 year	...	...	...	...	...	12
2 — 4 years	...	...	...	...	...	1
5 — 14 years	...	...	...	...	...	2
15 and over	...	...	...	...	...	1
<i>Revaccinated</i>						
1 — 4 years	...	...	...	...	...	-
5 — 14 years	...	...	...	...	...	1
15 and over	...	...	...	...	...	-

## *Poliomyelitis Vaccination*

I give below details of the Poliomyelitis Vaccinations which have been carried out at Crosskeys' and Risca Clinics during the year ended December, 1963.

### RISCA:—

#### *PART I. Persons completing primary immunisation*

						<i>Number of persons who have received third dose of oral vaccine</i>
(a)	Children born in 1963	...	...	...	...	39
(b)	Children born in 1962	...	...	...	...	57
(c)	Children born in 1961	...	...	...	...	20
(d)	Children and young persons born in years 1943-1960	...	...	...	...	14
(e)	Young persons born in years 1933-1942	...	...	...	...	11
(f)	Others	...	...	...	...	14
(g)	Total	...	...	...	...	155

#### *PART II. Persons receiving reinforcing doses*

(a)	Number of persons given third injections of Salk vaccine	...	...	...	...	1
(b)	Number of persons given a reinforcing dose of oral vaccine after three Salk	...	...	...	...	193

### CROSSKEYS:—

#### *PART I. Persons completing primary immunisation*

						<i>Number of persons who have received third dose of oral vaccine</i>
(a)	Children born in 1963	...	...	...	...	4
(b)	Children born in 1962	...	...	...	...	24
(c)	Children born in 1961	...	...	...	...	7
(d)	Children and young persons born in years 1943-1960	...	...	...	...	10
(e)	Young persons born in years 1933-1942	...	...	...	...	5
(f)	Others	...	...	...	...	6
(g)	Total	...	...	...	...	56

#### *PART II. Persons receiving reinforcing doses*

(a)	Number of persons given third injections of Salk vaccine	...	...	...	...	-
(b)	Number of persons given a reinforcing dose of oral vaccine after three Salk	...	...	...	...	76





## Tuberculosis

Age Periods	Cases Notified				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0- 1								
1- 5								
5-15								
15-25								
25-35	2							
35-45								
45-65	3							
65 and over	2				1			
Total	7				1			

## Inspections of Factories and Workshops

Premises	Inspections	Written Notices	Prose- cutions
Factories with Mechanical Power	8	-	-
Factories without Mechanical Power	-	-	-
	<u>8</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

## Defects Found in Factories and Workshops

	Defects found	Defects remedied	Refer to H.M. Insp.	Prose- cutions
Want of Cleanliness ...	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation ...	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences ...	—	—	—	—
Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective...	1	1	—	—
Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—
Other offences ...	—	—	—	—

I am, your obedient Servant,

K. P. GILES.

# Risca Urban District Council

## PUBLIC HEALTH

### INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31st December, 1963

To the Chairman and Members of the Risca Urban District Council—

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my Annual Report of the work accomplished by the Public Health Department for the year ended 31st December, 1963.

#### Statement of Sanitary and Housing Work completed during the year

##### Exterior

Roofs repaired and made weatherproof .. .. .	22
External walls repaired or repointed .. .. .	6
Doors and frames repaired or renewed .. .. .	4
Eavesgutters repaired or renewed .. .. .	18
Rainwater downpipes repaired or renewed .. .. .	8
Chimney stacks repaired .. .. .	4

##### Interior

Floors repaired or renewed .. .. .	6
Windows repaired or renewed .. .. .	12
Walls replastered .. .. .	14
Ceilings replastered .. .. .	6
Fireplaces repaired or renewed .. .. .	2
Window cords fixed .. .. .	18

##### Drainage

Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed .. .. .	10
Flush pipe repaired or renewed .. .. .	3
Burst water pipes repaired .. .. .	12
Seats repaired or renewed .. .. .	4
Drains repaired .. .. .	8
Inspection Chambers repaired and provided with covers	8
New waste pipes fixed .. .. .	4
New pedestal pans provided and fixed .. .. .	14
New wash-up basins .. .. .	2
Doors of W.C. compartments repaired or renewed ..	4

#### FOOD INSPECTION

The following are particulars of meat and other foodstuffs surrendered and destroyed as unfit for human consumption during the year:—

27 tins Tomatoes ... .. .	Blown Condition
33 tins Cooked Ham ... .. .	” ”
14 tins Fruit Cocktail ... .. .	” ”



25 tins Peas	...	...	...	...	...	Blown Condition
13 tins Jellied Veal	...	...	...	...	...	" "
67 tins Corned Beef	...	...	...	...	...	" "
42 tins Pork Tenderloins	...	...	...	...	...	" "
47 tins Pork Luncheon Meat	...	...	...	...	...	" "
12 tins Ox Tongue	...	...	...	...	...	" "
24 tins Pears	...	...	...	...	...	" "
4 tins Cream	...	...	...	...	...	" "
7 tins Milk	...	...	...	...	...	" "
5 tins Steak	...	...	...	...	...	" "
6 tins Beans	...	...	...	...	...	" "
4 tins Fish	...	...	...	...	...	" "
4 tins Salmon	...	...	...	...	...	" "
2 tins Grapefruit	...	...	...	...	...	" "
3 tins Prunes	...	...	...	...	...	" "
4 tins Rhubarb	...	...	...	...	...	" "
2 tins Sago	...	...	...	...	...	" "
1 tin Carrots	...	...	...	...	...	" "
1 tin Peaches	...	...	...	...	...	" "

*Public Health Meat Regulations 1924 and Slaughterhouses Act 1954*

One private slaughterhouse is licensed by the Council to meet the requirements of local butchers.

Slaughtering is still carried on outside normal office hours on two nights during the week and on Sundays but the duties of meat inspection have been eased considerably by the appointment of Mr. John Richards, Public Health Inspector to the County Borough of Newport.

The Slaughterhouse is being conducted in a satisfactory manner. During the year 2,437 animals were slaughtered. The weight of meat and offal condemned was estimated at 558 lbs. Details of the animals slaughtered for human consumption in the area are as follows:—

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	259	-	8	1680	490
Number inspected	259	-	8	1680	490

**All diseases except Tuberculosis  
and Cysticerci**

Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	63	-	-	50	11
Percentage of the number inspected affected with the disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	24.3%	-	-	2.97%	2.2%

**Tuberculosis only.**

Whole carcasses condemned ...	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	-	-	-	-	6
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ... ..	-	-	-	-	1.22%

**Cysticerci.**

Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned ... ..	-	-	-	-	-

*Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries—Rodent Control Scheme*

During the past year the Rodent Control Operative has been very active in carrying out treatments as prescribed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. All business and private premises found to be infested were dealt with promptly and very satisfactory results were obtained.

The method of treatment consists of pre-baiting on four consecutive days, poisoning on the fifth and the poison left and any dead bodies picked up on the sixth day. In all at total of 248 premises were treated for rats and mice, 228 private, 11 business, 7 belonging to the council and 2 farms.

Two maintenance treatments of the sewer manholes were carried out during the year. This treatment consists of pre-baiting on two days and poisoning on the third day. From past experience I can say that these sewer treatments have the effect of keeping the degree of infestation at a safe low level and this has a correspondingly beneficial effect upon the degree and severity of surface infestations.

I am pleased to report that the Rodent Control Operative is most enthusiastic and conscientious and is doing a most important job in a very praiseworthy manner.

A very good sign too is the growing consciousness of this problem among the general public and we find that apart from the infestations found during routine inspections, people are becoming more co-operative in quickly reporting complaints of rats and mice.

*Milk Supplies*

During the year 60 samples of milk were taken and submitted to the laboratory for bacteriological analysis. All of these samples passed the Phophatase test but 2 failed the Methylene Blue test.

The Phosphatase test shows that the milk has been properly pasteurised and that raw milk has not been added to the milk after pasteurisation.

The Methylene Blue test is an indication as to the keeping quality of milk.

The three sources of supply are the Cambrian United Dairy, Marshfield, the C.W.S. Dairy, Trecynon, and the Abersychan and Pontypool C.W.S. Dairy.

Sampling of school milk is carried out regularly to ensure that it is of a satisfactory standard for consumption by the children.

### *Housing*

Work continued on 296 houses and flats at the Ty-Sign Housing Estate during the year. 210 houses and 84 flats were let for occupation on this site. Further contracts for 536 houses were negotiated during the year.

Progress was made during the year in dealing with sub-standard houses under the provisions of the Housing Act 1957, and if this progress can be maintained the slum clearance problem should be resolved in the near future.

### *Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947*

A great deal of time was devoted to ensuring that manufacturers and retailers of ice-cream complied with the above-mentioned regulations. This was particularly the case where the hot mix method of manufacture was used.

This method means that after the ingredients have been mixed the mixture shall not be kept for more than one hour above 45°F. before being raised to and kept at a temperature of not less than 150°F. for 30 minutes or 160°F. for 10 minutes. It shall then, within 1½ hours be reduced to not more than 45°F. and there kept until freezing is begun. Ice cream must not be sold unless kept at a temperature not exceeding 28°F.

### *Food and Drugs Act 1955*

#### *Food Hygiene Regulations 1955*

During the year much of my time has been spent in visiting the food premises of the district in order to discuss the provisions of the above-mentioned Regulations.

These Regulations replace Section 13 of the Food & Drugs Act 1938 and add a number of new provisions in the hygiene handling of food, and the construction and maintenance of premises, stalls and vehicles, etc., where food is handled.

The Regulations lay down requirements in respect of the cleanliness of food premises and stalls, and of apparatus and equipment. With regard to the hygienic handling of food, persons so employed shall take all such steps as may be reasonably necessary to protect the food from risk of contamination and shall not so place the food, or permit it to be so placed, as to involve any risk of contamination.



Regulation 9 deals with personal cleanliness and requires that a person who handles food shall keep as clean as may be reasonably practicable, all parts of his person, clothing, over-clothing or overalls which may be liable to come into contact with food. Any open cut or abrasion on any exposed part of the person must be covered with a water-proofed dressing. Spitting is now an offence and the use of tobacco (including snuff) is forbidden.

The use of newspaper as a primary wrapping material is now prohibited and I consider this to be a measure of control long overdue.

The Regulations deal at length with the construction of food premises, stalls and vehicles, and the facilities to be provided.

### *Infectious Diseases*

Where necessary all notified cases of infectious diseases were visited promptly and all efforts made to trace any possible source of infection. This is particularly so in the case of Food Poisoning and Dysentery.

Specimens of faeces are always sent to the laboratory for confirmation of the diagnosis in respect of both these diseases.

If the result is positive, specimens are sent to the laboratory in respect of every one of the occupants of the house. Each confirmed case is followed up until three consecutive negative results are received from the laboratory.

### *Shops Acts, 1912—1950*

The shops in the district were visited on many occasions in order to ensure that the above-mentioned Acts were being complied with.

Whilst carrying out food inspection, advantage was taken to inspect the conditions under which the employees, if any, are working.

Particular attention was paid to cleanliness, sanitary conveniences and their conditions, washing facilities, and as to whether seating accommodation was provided for female employees.

With regard to the above-mentioned matters, I can report that these requirements are being observed by the shop-keepers generally.

### *Verminous Premises*

During routine house inspection of both private and Council properties, care is taken to ascertain any infestation by vermin.

Any cases which are found in this way and those which are reported by tenants are dealt with by spraying with an insecticide and satisfactory results have been obtained, 5 houses found to be infested with vermin were dealt with in this way and eradication effected.

I am, Your obedient Servant,

GLYN M. JENKINS,

Public Health Inspector.



